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## **Sen. Allen's lake association legislation passes Senate unanimously**

**LANSING** – Legislation that reconciles conflicting attorney general opinions on how summer resort corporations should assess dues was unanimously passed by the Michigan State Senate today, announced Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City.

An association located in Allen's district contacted his office and requested a legislative clarification of this section of law.

"The law regarding the assessing of dues has been a very gray area for a number of years," Allen said. "This legislation will clear up the confusion, while providing flexibility to the lake associations on the process of assessing dues."

Michigan law currently states that these corporations may assess annual dues and special assessments against members by a vote of a majority thereof.

An attorney general opinion issued in 1970 interpreted the word "majority" as a "majority of votes cast."

A 2004 attorney general opinion overrode the previous decision and found that "majority" should be interpreted as "a majority of a summer resort corporation's members."

Sponsored by Allen, Senate Bill 751 clarifies the issue by granting a corporation the ability to determine how to assess dues by amending their bylaws. The bill specifies that a majority of the corporation's members must approve a dues assessment, unless their bylaws are amended to provide otherwise.

"Once and for all we can resolve this matter and give summer resort property owner corporations a clear answer on how they can assess dues," Allen said.

SB 751 will now go before the House of Representatives for consideration.

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